

JMYT-234US

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dharshini C. Fongalland et al. : Art Unit:  
Application No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner:  
Filed: Herewith :  
FOR: SUBSTRATE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application  
as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 8, with the  
following:

The substrate of the present invention is suitable for use in the  
preparation of a composite membrane for use in a fuel cell. When for use in a fuel  
cell, the total thickness of the membrane is suitably less than 200 $\mu$ m and preferably  
less than 100 $\mu$ m.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 11, with the  
following:

2) Perfluorinated or partially fluorinated polymers containing  
aromatic rings such as those described in WO 95/08581 and WO 97/25369 (Ballard  
Power Systems) which have been functionalised with SO<sub>3</sub>H, PO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, PO<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>,  
CH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, COOH, OSO<sub>3</sub>H, OPO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, OPO<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>. Also included are radiation or  
chemically grafted perfluorinated polymers, in which a perfluorinated carbon chain,  
for example, PTFE, fluorinated ethylene-propylene (FEP), tetrafluoroethylene-